

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Peixuan Guo et al.
Application No. : 10/539,241
Filed : September 5, 2007
For : pRNA CHIMERA

Examiner : Kimberly Chong
Art Unit : 1635
Docket No. : 570024.402USPC
Date : March 24, 2010

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents:

In response to the Restriction Requirement asserted by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (hereinafter "PTO") in the Office Action mailed on November 24, 2009, please extend the period of time for response three months, to expire on March 24, 2010. Enclosed are a Petition for an Extension of Time and the requisite fee.

The applicants hereby elect Group 1, claims 1-8, 28 and 35-37, for examination at this time.

In response to the asserted requirement for election of two species of heterologous components, the applicants elect the species of (1) a biologically active RNA and (2) a nucleotide analog for consideration at this time, with partial traverse, for reasons given below.

In response to the asserted further requirement for election of a single species of biologically active RNA, the applicants elect a siRNA for consideration at this time.

In response to the asserted further requirement for election of a single species of nucleotide analog, the applicants elect a 2'-F-2'-deoxy nucleotide derivative for consideration at this time.

In response to the asserted further requirement for election of a single species of pRNA monomer that is either circularly permuted or non-circularly permuted, the applicants elect non-circularly permuted pRNA for consideration at this time.

The subject matter of the present elections reads on claims 1-4, 6-8, 28, 35 and 37, of which claims 1 and 35 are regarded as generic.

The present elections are made with the understanding that upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicants will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowed generic claim, as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.141.

Applicants further understand that if claims directed to a product are elected for examination and found to be allowable, then withdrawn process claims which depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim may later be rejoined to the application, under 37 C.F.R. §1.142.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.